

INGRESS DISCARD IN OUTPUT BUFFERED  
SWITCHING DEVICES

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5 Abstract

Disclosed herein is a packet switching device coupled to receive inbound packets from a network, switch the packets through a switching fabric, and provide outbound packets to a network. Multiple different packet switching devices use such switching fabric to exchange inbound packets. The packet switching device includes an output traffic manager that selectively stores outbound packets from the switching fabric in queues until the packets can be transmitted to the network. When any queue is unable to store more outbound packets, the output traffic manager communicates to the input traffic manager to drop inbound packets destined for that queue, instead of transferring them to the switching fabric and ultimately dropping the packets as outbound packets. Thereby traffic through the switching fabric is reduced.